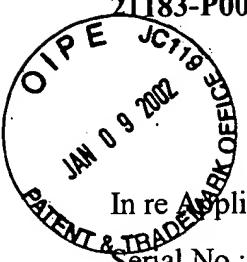


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ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.  
21183-P001P1

PATENT  
Application No. 09/899,833

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re Application of: Raymond W. Ellis et al.  
Serial No.: 09/899,833  
Filed: July 5, 2001  
Group Art Unit: 2152  
Examiner: Not Yet Assigned  
Title: AUTOMATED TOOL MANAGEMENT IN A MULTI-PROTOCOL ENVIRONMENT

RECEIVED  
JAN 16 2002  
Technology Center 2100

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in connection with the above-identified application for patent. Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information of which they are aware, which they believe may be material to the patentability of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

**CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any item referred to as being enclosed herewith) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on November 8, 2001.

Signature

Gracie Segovia

(Printed name of person certifying)

**ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.**  
**21183-P001P1**

**PATENT**  
**Application No. 09/899,833**

While this Information Disclosure Statement may be "material" pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to herein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a) exists.

The attached form, PTO-1449, provides a listing of patents, publications, or other information as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(1).

A copy of each of the items identified on the attached Form PTO-1449 is supplied herewith, except for the pending patent applications, for which no copies are being submitted.

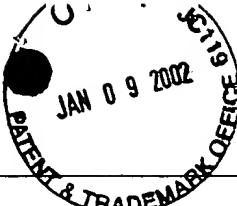
Respectfully submitted,

WINSTEAD SECHREST & MINICK P.C.

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AUSTIN\_1\177374\1  
11/07/2001 - 21183-P001P1



In Place of FORM PTO-1449 (Modified)

**LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR  
APPLICANTS' INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT**

Serial No.: 09/899,833  
Applicants: Raymond W. Ellis et al.  
Filing Date: July 5, 2001  
Group: 2152  
Atty. Docket No.: 21183-P001P1

Reference Designation

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
AAA	4,698,766	10/06/1987	Entwistle et al.	364	468	
ABA	5,271,453	12/21/1993	Yoshida et al.	165	22	
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ADA	5,805,442	09/08/1998	Crater et al.	364	138	
AEA						
AFA						
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AJA						
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ALA						
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ANA						
AOA						
APA						

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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
AQA	0 620 631 A1	03/21/1994	Europe			
ARA	0 612 004 A1	10/01/1994	Europe			
ASA	0 747 795 A3	07/06/1996	Europe			
ATA	0 822 473 A2	07/30/1997	Europe			

**OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

Examiner Initial  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
AUA

Examiner: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Considered: \_\_\_\_\_

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.